containing nine pages document prepared by some senior officers of the army against Denel, a South Africa firm who was trying to sell artillery to India Army;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of officers who prepared that documents; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir, a letter was received attaching certain documents.

(b) The said letter contained perceived "serious anomalies and non-compliance of laid down procedures" in procurement of 155 mm Tracked and Wheeled SP guns. It is not known as to who had prepared the aforesaid documents.

(c) The issues raised in the aforesaid communication have been examined in consultation with the Army HQ. Notably, due to certain allegations against M/s Denel in some other cases of procurement during the year 2002, further processing of the cases with M/s Denel has been put on hold.

Compensation for vacating extra spectrum for telecom providers

909. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the defence Ministry has sought Rs. 1,235 crore in compensation from Government to vacate extra spectrum for telecom providers;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Ministry was willing to shift to another band, but, Government had not provided Rs. 345 crore in compensation for vacating spectrum; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Upgradation of defence communication network and reviewing its spectrum requirement is a continuous process. Each proposal is examined

on a case to case basis and funds are provided depending upon the availability of funds and justification of the proposal.

The decision to vacate frequency spectrum from time to time for cellular operators is made after ensuring that the Defence requirements are fully met keeping in view the demand for such spectrum from the cellular operators.

Terrorism on the high seas

†910. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that personnel of Indian navy are constantly apprehensive about terrorism on the high seas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to deal with it?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard carry out regular surveillance and patrolling in the Indian territorial waters to check maritime terrorism, illegal immigration, smuggling, and security of Indian offshore installations.

Grounding of Dhruv

911. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force have decided to ground the entire fleet of Dhruv, the indigenously developed Advance Light Helicopter;

(b) what technical faults if any, about its maneuverability or otherwise have been detected in the practical use of this helicopter; and

(c) how many cases of crash of this type of helicopter are under review or examination in this context, and the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.